

A-MAZING WATER POST-VISIT ACTIVITIES

Wrap-up/Action:

1. Discuss the problems associated with untreated urban runoff entering rivers or other bodies of water. Have students identify or research how contaminated water affects aquatic life and drinking water supplies.
2. Introduce students to the many actions people can take to limit contaminants entering urban runoff. These include properly disposing of pet waste and litter and discarding chemicals and oils according to manufacturer's directions. Inform students that many cities have developed systems to treat runoff.
3. Have students design a brochure describing ways individuals can reduce their contributions to surface and ground water pollution via urban runoff.
4. Have students investigate a storm water stenciling program (through appropriate city or county public works departments) to help the community identify those drains that empty directly into streams and rivers.
5. Have students design mazes to simulate storm water drainage systems.
6. Have students explain why certain materials should not be dumped into the street or used carelessly.

Extensions:

Students can research alternatives to house and lawn chemicals and cleaning agents. Contact a local recycling center or waste treatment plant or a local environmental group for details. Invite a representative from the local water treatment plant to enrich the activity.

Visit a local oil change facility and have the manager explain what happens to oil after cars are serviced.

Indiana State Science Standards Correlations:

A-maze-ing Water: 4.2.5, 4.6.3
5.1.6
6.1.6, 6.2.7, 6.3.8, 6.3.16, 6.5.5, 6.7.2, 6.7.3